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LB 518, 594A

pitch from a couple of the individuals there, strongly endorsing Senator Lynch's bill. Both these individuals were disabled, they were very...they wanted to work. That's just so great to see in society today, individuals that want to work, but they are...they were so concerned, if they work too many hours, why, then they lose their Medicaid payments and their Medicaid services. And so they said, please vote for LB 518. And then also I wanted to mention that a couple years ago a group of Omaha senators volunteered to deliver Meals-on-Wheels in Omaha, which we did, and each one of us kind of worked in our own district and we went out in our own district and delivered these meals. And then afterwards, we came back and we had one of these meals to experience what that would be like. And while we were there, Bev Griffith, who runs the...who is the Director of the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, said, you know there's one thing you could really help us with. And I said, what's that? And she said, well, we have a program in Fremont, Nebraska, and they had volunteers who were picking up senior citizens, taking them to the drug store, taking them to the hospital, to the doctor's office, clinic, whatever it might be, wait for them, and then take them back home. And the program was very successful. And so they needed more volunteers, more drivers. So they put a little ad in the paper, what is it, The Hub, in Fremont, or whatever you call it, Tribune, thank you, Fremont Tribune, and asked if there was anyone who would want to volunteer. And, gee, they got several calls from people saying, yes, we would like to do that, that would make us feel good. And two days later there were two people from the Public Service Commission Office standing outside of Ms. Griffith's office saying, you can't do that. And she said, why? Well, because you have to have a chauffeur's license to volunteer. And, of course, Senator Schimek had a bill in just yesterday on volunteering. We had the President of the United States having a task force on volunteering, and here are individuals that want to work and they couldn't work because of some regulation. Senator Bohlke's bill helps...or amendment helps that, too. So I feel real good about the merging of these two, and hopefully the cost of...over the biennium, effect on the bill of \$80,808 will be allowed in the budget and move forward. With that, thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Lynch, on